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MINISTER PRENTICE ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF COLLIN BAYHA TO THE SAHTU LAND USE PLANNING BOARD

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OTTAWA (May 17, 2007) - The Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, today announced the appointment of Mr. Collin Bayha as Member of the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board *(external link, opens a new window)* .

"Mr. Bayha has made it a priority to serve his community throughout his career," said Minister Prentice. "We welcome the opportunity to include him as a member of the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board."

Mr. Bayha has acted as Déline Dene Band Councillor from 2003 to 2005 and has worked in the private sector in the Northwest Territories. Mr. Bayha has experience in communications, public relations and management. He has also worked recently as a water contractor in Déline.

The Sahtu Land Use Planning Board is responsible for drafting and applying a land use plan for the Sahtu Settlement Area, a region more than 280,000 square kilometres in size, including the communities of Colville Lake, Fort Good Hope, Tulita, Déline and Norman Wells. The plan, reviewed every five years, requires approvals by the Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada before it can come into effect.

Five members participate on the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board. The Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated nominates two members for appointment and the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada each nominate one member. The Chairperson is nominated by the four Board members. All positions are appointed by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

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